

January 12, 2006

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT



Applicant : George A. Lopez
App. No : 10/630,131
Filed : July 30, 2003
For : MEDICAL VALVE
Examiner : Loan H. Thanh
Art Unit : 3763

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

January 12, 2006

(Date)

Paul N. Conover

Paul N. Conover, Reg. No. 44,087

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

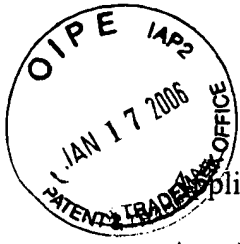
Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application are:

- (X) An Information Disclosure Statement and PTO/SB/08 equivalent listing references for consideration:
 - (X) Listing 168 references.
 - (X) Enclosing 168 references.
- (X) A check in the amount of \$180 to cover the required fee is enclosed.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.

Paul N. Conover

Paul N. Conover
Registration No. 44,087
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(949) 760-0404



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Paul N. Conover, Reg. No. 44,087

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application is a PTO/SB/08 Equivalent listing 168 references to be considered by the Examiner. Copies of the references listed on the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed. Most of these references constitute correspondence (or translations thereof) between the Applicant's representatives in foreign countries and the examiners of related patent applications in those countries. Although Applicant believes that submission of these materials is not mandatory under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the materials are provided in this application out of an abundance of caution to avoid any allegation of omitted information in the pending litigation.

If the Examiner believes that any additional information relating to the foreign applications is material to the examination of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's counsel. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a final action and before the mailing of a Notice of Allowance and is accompanied by the

Appl. No. : 10/630,131
Filed : July 30, 2003

Docket No. ICUMM.011C8C5
Customer No. 20,995

fees set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or to credit any overpayments to Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 1/12/06

By: Paul N. Conover

Paul N. Conover

Registration No. 44,087

Attorney of Record

Customer No. 20,995

(949) 760-0404

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Application No. 10/630,131
 Filing Date July 30, 2003
 First Named Inventor George A. Lopez
 Art Unit 3763
 Examiner Loan H. Thanh
 Attorney Docket No. ICUMM.011C8C5

(Multiple sheets used when necessary)

SHEET 1 OF 9

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number Number - Kind Code (if known) Example: 1,234,567 B1	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	04-0034325	02-19-2004	George A. Lopez	
	2	6,132,404	10-17-2000	George A. Lopez	
	3	6,325,782	12-04-2001	George A. Lopez	
	4	6,635,044	10-21-2003	George A. Lopez	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code-Number-Kind Code Example: JP 1234567 A1	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ¹
	5	G 84 25 197.2	10-31-1985	Fagasi		√
	6	855 319	11-13-1952	Steiner et al.		√
	7	DE 3303718 C1	10-04-1984	Herlitze et al.		√
	8	FR 1,373,027	08-17-1964	Razimbaud		√

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ¹
	9	Description of Examiner's Rejection (Japan) – September 14, 2004	√
	10	Written Opinion and Amendment (Japan) – March 17, 2005	√
	11	Final Rejection (Japan) – May 13, 2005	√
	12	Nominal Appeal and Amendment (Japan) – August 22, 2005	√
	13	Notice of Reasons for Rejection (Japan) – June 11, 2002	√
	14	Written Opinion and Amendment (Japan) – December 10, 2002	√
	15	Notice of Reasons for Rejection (Japan) – December 24, 2003	√
	16	Written Opinion (Japan) – March 24, 2004	√
	17	Substantive Examination Official Letter No. 19940 (Mexico) – August 21, 1995	√

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

T¹ - Place a check mark in this area when an English language Translation is attached.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Application No.	10/630,131
	Filing Date	July 30, 2003
	First Named Inventor	George A. Lopez
	Art Unit	3763
(Multiple sheets used when necessary)	Examiner	Loan H. Thanh
SHEET 2 OF 9	Attorney Docket No.	ICUMM.011C8C5

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ¹
	18	Answer to Letter of Requisites No. 19940 dated August 21, 1995 (Mexico)	√
	19	Substantive Examination Official Letter No. 8961 (Mexico) – March 26, 1998	√
	20	Answer to Letter of Requisites No. 8961 dated March 26, 1998 (Mexico)	√
	21	Substantive Examination Official Letter No. 29974 (Mexico) – October 12, 1998	√
	22	Answer to Letter of Requisites No. 29974 dated October 12, 1998 (Mexico)	√
	23	Substantive Examination Official Letter No. 10943 (Mexico) – May 18, 1999	√
	24	Answer to letter of Requisites No. 10943 dated May 18, 1999 (Mexico)	√
	25	Preliminary Statement (Bulgaria) – January 9, 1996	√
	26	Reply to Preliminary Statement and Redrafted Specification (Bulgaria) – July 17, 1996	√
	27	Examiner's Grounds for Rejection (Korea)	√
	28	Details of Opinion in Response to Preliminary Rejection dated July 16, 2003 (Korea)	√
	29	Examiner's Grounds for Rejection (Korea)	√
	30	Details of Opinion in Response to Preliminary Rejection dated July 24, 2002 (Korea)	√
	31	Notice of Grounds for Refusal (Korea) – July 27, 1999	√
	32	Argument and Amendment (Korea) – December 27, 1999	√
	33	Notice of Grounds for Refusal (Korea) – January 26, 2000	√
	34	Argument and Amendment (Korea) – April 26, 2000	√
	35	Examination (New Zealand) – July 11, 1997	
	36	Examination (New Zealand) – October 13, 1997	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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	37	Annotated Figures and Replacement Claims Submitted to IPONZ (New Zealand)	
	38	Examination (New Zealand) – April 16, 1999	
	39	Response to Examiner and Amended Claims (New Zealand) – July 9, 1999	
	40	Examination Report (New Zealand) – July 19, 1999	
	41	Response to Examiner's Report and Amended Claims (New Zealand) – August 5, 1999	
	42	Examination Report (New Zealand) – September 7, 1999	
	43	Response to Examiner and Amended Claims (New Zealand) – December 6, 1999	
	44	Response to Examiner and Proposed Amendments (New Zealand) – January 28, 2000	
	45	Examination Report (New Zealand) – February 9, 2000	
	46	Response to Examiner and Amended Claims (New Zealand) – February 10, 2000	
	47	Response to Examiner (New Zealand) – February 15, 2000	
	48	Office Action (Finland) – June 12, 2001	√
	49	Response to Intermediate Decision (Finland) – September 12, 2001	√
	50	Office Action (Finland) – September 21, 2001	√
	51	Response to Intermediate Decision (Finland) – March 19, 2002	√
	52	Official Action (Russia) – June 16, 1999	√
	53	Response to Evaluation Request for Patent Application No. 971010853/14 (Russia)	√
	54	Official Action (Norway) – November 20, 1997	√
	55	Response and New Claims (Norway) – August 21, 1998	√

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	56	Official Action (Norway) September 6, 1999	√
	57	Response to Patent Office Letter dated September 6, 1999 (Norway)	√
	58	Official Action (Norway) – July 17, 2000	√
	59	Response to Committee Statement (Norway) – October 17, 2000	√
	60	Official Action (Norway) – February 5, 2001	√
	61	Response to Patent Office Letter (Norway) – May 3, 2001	√
	62	Examination (Romania) – October 8, 1996	√
	63	Response and Amended Claims (Romania) – September 27, 1996	√
	64	First Office Action (Republic of China) – April 8, 2005	√
	65	Statement of Opinions (Republic of China) – October 17, 2005	√
	66	First Office Action (Republic of China) – March 29, 2002	√
	67	Statement of Opinions (Republic of China) – October 12, 2002	√
	68	Second Office Action (Republic of China) – November 29, 2002	√
	69	Statement of Opinions (Republic of China) – February 14, 2003	√
	70	Letter from Commissioner of Patents (New Zealand) – April 6, 1999	
	71	Response to Examiner and Amended Claims (New Zealand) – September 29, 2000	
	72	Notice of Voided Application (New Zealand) – November 29, 2000	
	73	Response to IPONZ (New Zealand) – December 4, 2000	
	74	Examination Report (New Zealand) – December 11, 2000	

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	75	Response to IPONZ and Amended Claim (New Zealand) – December 14, 2000	
	76	Examination Report (New Zealand) – December 21, 2000	
	77	Response to IPONZ and Amended Claims (New Zealand) – December 22, 2000	
	78	Examination Report (New Zealand) – January 16, 2001	
	79	Notice of Examination (EPO) – June 21, 1996	
	80	Response to Communication (EPO) – January 2, 1997	
	81	Notice of Examination (EPO) – September 8, 1997	
	82	Response to Communication (EPO) – March 17, 1998	
	83	Notice of Examination (EPO) – June 25, 1998	
	84	Response to Communication (EPO) – November 11, 1998	
	85	Examiner's Report (New Zealand) – January 16, 1996	
	86	Response and Substitute Claims (New Zealand) – June 17, 1997	
	87	Response and Amended Claims (New Zealand) – June 30, 1997	
	88	Requisition by Examiner (Canada) – January 30, 2003	
	89	Response to Official Action (Canada) – July 22, 2003	
	90	Requisition by Examiner (Canada) – September 22, 2003	
	91	Response to Official Action (Canada) – March 19, 2004	
	92	Requisition by Examiner (Canada) – February 8, 2005	
	93	Response to Official Action (Canada) – August 8, 2005	

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	94	Examiner's First Report (Australia) – August 7, 2003	
	95	Notice of Entitlement and Statement of Proposed Amendments (Australia) – September 24, 2003	
	96	Rejection by the Patent Examining Authority (Czech Republic) – reply due August 12, 1996	√
	97	Examiner's First Report (Australia) – November 28, 1994	
	98	Notice of Assertion of Invalidity (Australia) – November 29, 1995	
	99	Examiner's First Report (Australia) – September 17, 1997	
	100	Statement of Proposed Amendments and Notice of Entitlement (Australia) – May 20, 1998	
	101	Examiner's Report No. 2 (Australia) – June 16, 1998	
	102	Statement of Proposed Amendments (Australia) – June 15, 1999	
	103	Examiner's Report No. 3 (Australia) – June 17, 1999	
	104	Requisition by Examiner (Canada) – October 18, 2004	
	105	Response to Official Action (Canada) – April 18, 2005	
	106	Examiner's First Report (Australia) – February 24, 2005	
	107	Statement of Proposed Amendments (Australia) – August 31, 2005	
	108	Examination (EPO) – April 17, 2001	
	109	Response to Communication (EPO) – November 12, 2001	
	110	Examiner's First Report (Australia) – August 7, 1997	
	111	Statement of Proposed Amendments and Notice of Entitlement (Australia) – December 7, 1998	
	112	Examiner's Report No. 2 (Australia) – January 6, 1999	

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	113	Statement of Proposed Amendments (Australia) – May 7, 1999	
	114	Examiner's First Report (Australia) – July 3, 2000	
	115	Examination Report (New Zealand) – October 5, 2000	
	116	Response to Examination Report (New Zealand) – February 13, 2001	
	117	Examination Report (New Zealand) – June 5, 2001	
	118	Response to Examination Report (New Zealand) – May 21, 2002	
	119	Examination (EPO) – June 18, 1996	
	120	Response to Communication (EPO) – December 30, 1996	
	121	Examination (EPO) – April 3, 1997	
	122	Response to Communication (EPO) – September 17, 1997	
	123	Examination (EPO) – January 29, 1998	
	124	Response to Communication (EPO) – April 30, 1998	
	125	Decision to Refuse (EPO) – April 29, 1999	
	126	Communication regarding Examination (EPO) – June 6, 1997	
	127	Response to Communication (EPO) – December 10, 1997	
	128	Communication Regarding Examination (EPO) – March 19, 1998	
	129	Response to Communication (EPO) – October 13, 1998	
	130	Communication Regarding Examination (EPO) – March 23, 1999	
	131	Response to Communication (EPO) – October 22, 1999	

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	132	Communication Regarding Examination (EPO) – June 13, 2000	
	133	Response to Communication (EPO) – January 2, 2001	
	134	Communication Under Rule 51(4) EPC (EPO) – May 25, 2001	
	135	Response to Communication (EPO) – December 4, 2001	
	136	Notification of Examination (EPO) – December 19, 2001	
	137	Response to Communication (EPO) – February 7, 2002	
	138	International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT) – October 15, 1996	
	139	Written Opinion (PCT) – March 29, 1996	
	140	International Search Report (PCT) – November 13, 1995	
	141	International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT) – October 18, 1995	
	142	Written Opinion (PCT) – April 28, 1995	
	143	International Search Report (PCT) – January 30, 1995	
	144	International Search Report (PCT) – March 22, 1993	
	145	International Search Report Annex Sheet (PCT) – March 22, 1993	
	146	Written Opinion (PCT) – November 5, 1993	
	147	Response to Written Opinion (PCT) – February 23, 1994	
	148	International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT) – April 5, 1994	
	149	International Search Report (PCT) – November 7, 1995	
	150	Written Opinion (PCT) – February 23, 1996	

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	151	International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT) – June 21, 1996	
	152	European Search Report (EPO) – January 15, 2002	
	153	Communication Regarding Examination (EPO) – May 9, 2003	
	154	Response to Communication (EPO) – November 17, 2003	
	155	Communication Regarding Examination (EPO) – February 5, 2004	
	156	Response to Communication (EPO) – August 12, 2004	
	157	Communication Regarding Examination (EPO) – January 3, 2005	
	158	Notification (Japan) – February 7, 1996	√
	159	Regulations Under the Patent Law Section 13 ^{bis} (Japan)	√
	160	Japanese Patent Law, Sections 29 and 29 ^{bis} (Japan)	√
	161	Notice of Reasons for Rejection (Japan) – December 17, 2001	√
	162	Written Opinion and Amendment (Japan) – June 25, 2002	√
	163	Decision to Decline Amendment (Japan) – May 27, 2003	√
	164	Final Rejection (Japan) – September 16, 2003	√
	165	Request for Trial (Japan) – December 15, 2003	√
	166	Appeal Brief (Japan) – January 14, 2004	√
	167	Amendment (Japan) – January 14, 2004	√
	168	Trial Decision in Trial No. 2003-24251 (Japan)	√

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